

To whom it may concern,

My name is Sarah Payne writing in favor of House Bill 6517. I am the parent of not one but two dyslexic children in the town of Montville Ct. We have struggled for years to get the proper services as have many other families. Time and time again being told that what was being done was "fair and appropriate." In the meantime my children kept falling farther and farther behind not only educationally but emotionally. We tried everything that was suggested including tutoring, occupational therapy, sight word practice, audiobooks, and of course just sitting and reading. After many discrepancies between school and home we sought the help of an educational advocate who demanded outside testing. After these devastating results we were finally given the services that were required for dyslexia.

This bill is long overdue and should have been put into place in 1975 when the IDEA Act and FAPE were put into place. Teachers and Educators can't give Fair Appropriate Public Education to Individuals with Disabilities without proper education and training. There are many wonderful educators who cannot effectively help a struggling student when not educated themselves. Any other way is in my opinion in violation of the laws already put in place.

Thank you,

Sarah Payne